GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2632
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004
COCONUT CULTIVATION
Chandrappan Shri C.K.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has received a memorandum from the Kera Karshaka Sangham, the organization of coconut farmers regarding the problems of coconut cultivation and suggesting solutions;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) The response of the Government thereto ;

(d) Whether the coconut technology mission has been successful in its practical implementation; and

(e) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b) : Yes, Sir. The memorandum of Kera Karshaka Sangham is regarding grievances and problems faced by the coconut growers of Kerala like root (wilt) disease, mite infestation, lack of irrigation facilities, lack of assistance for fertilizers, import of coconut products and others.

(c) to (e): Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India is implementing the schemes namely, Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India and Technology Mission on Coconut to address all the issues related to development of coconut in the country with a X plan allocation of Rs.150 crores, of which Rs.53.65 crores is for the implementation of the programmes under Technology Mission. The main objectives of Technology Mission on Coconut, which is being implemented in a mission mode approach since 2001-02 are

(1) Development and adoption of technologies for management of insect pests and disease affected coconut gardens, (2) Development and adoption of technologies for processing and product diversification in coconut and (3) Market research and promotion of coconut products. So far, an amount of Rs.13.59 crores has been released to different States and Institutes including NGOs, farmers and entrepreneurs for 71 projects involved in development and adoption of technologies for integrated management of pests and diseases as well as for development and promotion of technologies for product diversification in coconut.